

By 5-4 margin

Lake-Lehman School Board passes \$7.4 million budget

By CHARLOT M. DENMON
Staff Correspondent

Lake-Lehman School Board members approved its \$7.4 million budget for the 1984-85 school year at their regular meeting held June 12. The budget, which passed by a 5-4 margin, calls for 113 mills real estate tax for Jackson, Lake, Lehman and Ross Township as well as Harveys Lake Borough and 119 mills for Noxen Township, located in Wyoming County. The 113 millage is an increase of six mills over 1983-84 and the 119 millage is an increase of 12 mills for Noxen.

A budget summary shows the District will have an estimated beginning balance of \$197,102 available for appropriation in 1984-85. There is a total of \$150,853 in the general fund and \$46,249 in the Federal fund.

Other estimated revenue for the next year includes \$3,323,095 from local sources such as real estate taxes, per capita taxes, public utility realty taxes, delinquencies, earnings on investments, rentals and contributions and donations from private sources. Estimated revenue also includes state basic instructional subsidy of \$2,782,353, income for homebound instruction, vocational education of \$32,765, driver education \$4,095, and subsidies for non-educational programs such as transportation \$548,085, rentals and sinking fund payments \$339,565, medical, dental and nurse services and sewage treatment operation for a sum total of \$3,727,702.

Federal revenue includes education of disadvantaged children \$224,702, vocational education operating expenses \$15,208 and Federal block grants \$23,395, a total of \$263,305. The revenue items total \$7,314,190 which added to the beginning balance equal \$7,511,292 or an estimated balance in the federal fund at the end of 1985 of \$53,854.

Instruction is the largest expenditure item in the budget. The estimated amount for regular pupil instruction is \$2,942,993, special instruction \$159,863, vocational education instruction \$623,224 and other instruction programs for elementary, secondary \$43,452. Total instruction is estimated \$3,769,532.

Support services expenditures for programs for pupil personnel, instructional staff, administration, pupil health, business, operation and maintenance of plant services, student transportation, central supply and miscellaneous items total \$2,524,085.

Estimated expenditures for student activities such as band, athletics and other extra-curricular activities total \$156,647 and community service expense incurred by the district is estimated at \$12,310 or a combined total of \$168,957 for carrying out non-instructional services.

Financing uses of the district includes debt service, fund transfers and budgetary reserve which total \$994,864, the largest amount the reduction of debt service for \$935,928.

Instruction expense includes all costs necessary for the education of the student, teachers, benefits, equipment, supplies, purchased professional and technical services and miscellaneous items.

Non-instructional services include all extra-curricular expenses incurred by the district in order to give each student an opportunity to develop the full range of his or her abilities.

Tax structure in Lake-Lehman School District is comprised of real estate taxes in Luzerne County communities of the district 113 mills; Wyoming County community of Noxen 119 mills, per capita tax of \$5 mandated by Section 679, per capita tax of \$5 called for by Act 511,

earned income tax of one half of one percent, occupational privilege tax \$10, mechanical device tax \$10 and real estate transfer tax of one percent.

Voting for the 1984-85 budget were Gilbert Tough, Donald Jones, Thomas Williams, Daniel Hudzik, and Joseph "Red" Jones, board president. Casting dissenting votes were Allen Keiper, Edward Mark, Martin Noone and Bing Wolfe.

Board president Jones expressed appreciation to finance chairman Gilbert Tough and members of his committee for the countless number of hours they spent working on the budget.

Robert Allardyce of Jackson Township questioned the directors as to whether Planned Parenthood officials or members of that agency's staff members had ever visited the school. Dr. David Preston, school superintendent stated that to the best of his knowledge they had not, but if any had been there it was at the request of a teacher for instruction as it related to a particular class.

Allardyce also stated that he

would like to have copies of the job description of the district's administrators and their salaries for the past three years, enrollment figures for the past four years, real estate millage for the past five years, and also wanted to know if the directors received expense money.

Dr. Preston explained that the board directors received only mileage expense if it was necessary for them to travel great distances and reimbursement for the "out-of-pocket" expenses if they were requested to attend special conferences or seminars. He told Allardyce he could arrange to obtain the copies he requested from Raymond Bowersox, business manager of the district.

President Jones requested that Allardyce come to the next board meeting and report his findings which Allardyce agreed to do.

A special meeting for general purposes will be held Tuesday, June 26, at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of the high school. The next regular meeting of the board will be held Tuesday, July 10, 8 p.m., in the auditorium of the high school.



Dallas Post/Ann Devlin

Sticking together

Mrs. Florence Sherwood, left, and her daughter, Denise, are shown here in their home in front of a portrait of Mrs. Sherwood's other daughter, Dawn. Dawn died of leukemia when she was just four years old.

The show must go on

Chorus director's daughter takes over at crucial time

By ANN DEVLIN
Staff Correspondent

Mrs. Florence Sherwood, chorus director for the Dallas Senior and Junior High Schools, had a near brush with death, but thanks to family, friends, students and teachers, Mrs. Sherwood is recovering and this year's spring chorus program was a big success.

According to Mrs. Sherwood, her illness "couldn't have come at a worse time."

She was admitted to the hospital on May 9, right smack in the middle of the Senior High Chorus Concert week. Mrs. Sherwood was able to direct the Monday dress rehearsal, the Tuesday performance for the elementary school, and the Wednesday performance for the junior high school. However, shortly after the Wednesday presentation, Mrs. Sherwood admits she didn't feel very well.

"I had chills, a headache, and was sick to my stomach," says Mrs. Sherwood. "At first I thought I had the flu, but then I experienced chest pains." After being admitted to the hospital, cardiograms and x-rays made it apparent that this was more than the flu. Mrs. Sherwood explained, "I had a pulmonary embolism, and a pneumonia infection on top of that."

In spite of her condition, Mrs. Sherwood said, "I knew the concert must go on." Luckily, Mrs. Sherwood's daughter, Denise Sherwood, a substitute teacher, knew what to do. "No other substitute teacher could have known what to do," says Mrs. Sherwood, "there was so much to be done after school hours."

Denise stayed after school to organize things for the concert and brought some materials home for her mother to supervise. The Thursday morning concert for the intermediate school, and the Thursday and Friday night performance for the public were a success.

Denise and her mother give credit to others, who helped them complete the concert series. Charlene Baker, a senior, helped accompany the chorus, and Liz Morgan, a junior, helped conduct the chorus.

The next day, Saturday, the chorus was slated to compete in the "Music in Our Parks Competition" at Hershey, which was to be their first competition of this type ever. "My husband and daughter were willing to chaperone the chorus," says Mrs. Sherwood.

Denise was also responsible for completing a number of other chorus related activities, according to her mother. Denise organized the chorus performances at baccalaureate and graduation ceremonies, the Awards Day at the junior high school, and the junior high chorus concert.

"Before the junior high chorus concert, we had a hospital tour to do," says Mrs. Sherwood. Certain members of the chorus visit area hospitals such as Wesley Village, the VA Hospital, and Valley Crest. "They really look forward to us coming," Mrs. Sherwood says. Thanks to Denise and help from Mrs. Nancy Campbell, elementary music teacher, and

Marilyn O'Connell, intermediate music teacher, the chorus managed to make their rounds to the hospitals.

Mrs. Sherwood and Denise also thank others for their help with various projects such as Mr. Benn, senior high band director, Reese Pelton, junior high instrumental instructor, Michelle Drago, accompanist, and juniors Leslie Billman and Jill Brown.

Without the help of all the students, the completion of the chorus concerts could not have been realized. Mrs. Sherwood explains, "I have a tremendous chorus this year and a super bunch of kids. They knew what had to be done, they pulled together, and they did it."

The students helped Mrs. Sherwood in more ways than one. "The kids came to see me at the hospital," says Mrs. Sherwood. "They brightened my day when they came down." The senior high chorus presented her with a music box of a man playing a piano. Other students brought her roses. "It made me cry that they thought that much of me," Mrs. Sherwood says.

"The kids really liked Denise," Mrs. Sherwood says, pointing to bouquets of flowers that the students presented to her daughter. Denise, a graduate of West Chester College, has a degree in music, elementary education, and library science. She was also a song leader at Girl Scout camp, and has done leader workshops in music.

"I had a good time, even though it was all of a sudden," says Denise, "I've been substituting for six years, but this work really carried me throughout the day."

Mrs. Sherwood's illness couldn't stop her from missing everything, however. Her son, Scott, tape recorded the senior high concert which she heard, and a friend, Ralph Fitch, videotaped the concert, which Mrs. Sherwood plans to view.

"Denise took me to baccalaureate to hear the chorus, and my husband took me to graduation so I could see the kids graduate and hear them sing," says Mrs. Sherwood. She was also able to see the junior high concert at the end of May.

Mrs. Sherwood was also able to keep her promise to a group of the chorus students when on Wednesday, June 13, she took them to the Pocono Playhouse to see "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," starring Jimmy Osmond. Nancy Campbell, Mrs. Pitcavage and Marilyn O'Connell helped arrange the all-day trip. "It was an interesting trip," says Mrs. Sherwood, "I finally fulfilled all my obligations, but I was exhausted at the end of the day."

Mrs. Sherwood began teaching music in Dallas in 1951 and, to this day, still loves working with the students. The illness has sharpened her outlook on life, however.

"I have a strong faith in God that He certainly has a purpose for me," says Mrs. Sherwood. "Several times I never should have lived, but I did." According to Mrs. Sherwood, she was severely burned as a baby, and miraculously pulled through.

"I'm grateful to God for my life and appreciate my world," Mrs. Sherwood says. "The stars look brighter now, and my family seems even more wonderful."

Honored on 35th anniversary

One hundred twenty five friends and relatives attended the 35th wedding anniversary party honoring Michael and Betty Gutch of Pikes Creek given by their daughters, Carol Ann Keefer of Shavertown and Suzanne Gutch of Pikes Creek.

They were married on June 18, 1949 in Holy Trinity Church in Swyersville by Rev. S.J. Yanchuska.

Their attendants were Dorothy Shorts, maid of honor; Alex Lulu, best man; Margaret Elenchick Har-

ison, bridesmaid, and John Bednar, usher. Flower girl was Patricia Sholtis Sutterlin, Bloomfield, N.J. and ring bearer was Robert Skoronski, Tunkhannock.

The party was held at American Legion Post 644, Shoemaker St., Swyersville. Mrs. Gutch is the daughter of John and Agnes Sholtis of Follies Rd., Huntsville. Mr. Gutch is the son of Nicholas and Susan Gutch of Milbre St., Swyersville. They have two grandchildren, Jennifer and David Keefer.

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